Special provisions for certain members of the ERS (SB 156 by Lyon/Robnett)

DIGEST:

SB 156 would have allowed an elected official who is a retiree under the Employees Retirement System (ERS) to change the type of retirement benefit from an optional benefit providing a survivor's annuity to a standard lifetime annuity. The change would have had to be made by Nov. 1, 1989 and could only have been made by a retiree who retired before Feb. 1, 1981 and whose designated beneficiary was not a spouse or child.

The bill would also have allowed a current member of the Judicial Retirement System Plan I who served as a state district court judge and who is serving as supreme court justice to credit time served in the legislature or as a state employee and military service credit towards time served as an elected official.

GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO:

This bill would make exceptions to the rules of Employees Retirement System of Texas for two individuals. This is not in keeping with the spirit of Art. 3, Sec. 56 of the Texas Constitution, which prohibits the Legislature from making special laws.

RESPONSE:

Sen. Ted Lyon, the author of SB 156, had no comment.

NOTES:

SB 156 was not analyzed in a Daily Floor Report.